State Representative Lynn Stucky January Newsletter

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State Representative Lynn Stucky is Sworn into Office!



Dr. Lynn Stucky was sworn into the Texas House of Representatives on January 10, 2017 as the newest member to serve the City of Denton and surrounding areas. He succeeded Myra Crownover who served House District 64 for 17 years. He joined all his colleagues in voting 150-0 for Speaker Joe Straus. As he awaits his committee assignments from the Speaker, Dr. Stucky is considering legislation to file, the opening of his district office, as well as offering constituent services for those in need of assistance.



Pictured(l-r): Bob Mong(UNT Dallas), Lee Jackson UNT System), Neil Smatresk(UNT), Carine Feyten (TWU), and Rep. Lynn Stucky in his Capitol office.

Meeting the Governor

Representative Stucky joined his freshmen colleagues in the Texas House at the Governor's Mansion for coffee on the morning of the 17th. It was the first time the members of the Texas House were invited over to the Mansion and had the opportunity to meet and talk to Governor Abbott in a personal setting. "Governor Abbott was a great host. His vision and leadership as governor has been tremendous, there is no question he is the right man to lead our state forward. I'm honored to serve alongside him," Stucky said.

Governor Abbott in his State of the State address on January 31st, laid out many important issues, but to highlight the address he placed four issues on the Emergency Item list. They included funding our Children Protective Services program, passing legislation to end sanctuary city practices, ethics reform, and passing an Article V Convention of States for a Constitutional Convention.



Pictured: Representative Lynn Stucky with Governor Greg Abbott at the Governor's Mansion Freshman Legislative coffee. Unfortunately, neither Pancake nor Oreo attended the coffee to meet the newest "puppy doctor!"

MEETINGS, MEETINGS, MEETINGS

As Dr. Stucky soon found out, when you hold office at the Texas Capitol, people want to voice their concerns and advocate on issues that spread across the spectrum. Representative Stucky has taken meetings with constituents, advocates, citizen activists, agency officials, and business leaders, as well as caucus meetings with his fellow Republicans. The term used around the capitol for freshmen senators and representatives is "drinking from a fire hose" and they are learning firsthand what it takes to ingest enormous amounts of information in a short amount of time.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

When the Speaker of the House appoints committees, the Chairmen will submit dates and times that they prefer for their committee to hear bills and testimony. Once that is determined, the chairmen will call to orderly weekly hearings where representatives will lay out bills, which is to explain what the law is, what the changes are, and why it is important and needs to happen. Testimony will then be opened up for public comment where experts can testify to the merit of the bill. Committees can hear any amount of bills during a hearing and have been known to last well into the early hours of the morning.

If a committee passes a proposed bill, it then heads to the Calendars Committee, which is responsible for scheduling all bills that reach the floor of the House, where spirited or calm debate will take place, depending upon the subject matter. If it passes the House, then it will go to the State Senate, where it may be passed, changed or no action occurs. If it is changed, the bill will be sent to a Conference Committee for negotiating a final version. If that final version passes both the House and the Senate, the bill lands on the Governor's desk. If he signs it, it becomes law.

You can watch the House floor session <u>here</u>. The link to House Committee schedules is <u>here</u>.

OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Stucky is committed to keeping in constant contact with his constituents and the community at-large. Please feel free to stop by any time you are in Denton or Austin. His friendly staff will be happy to assist you in any way possible. Below is the office contact information

At this time, we have not yet signed a lease for a district office, but it is in the process of being finalized.

In the meantime, if you want to reach Representative Stucky, please use the following contact information:

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Representative Stucky's "CAPITAL FUN FACT" of the month:

If you have a valid Texas Concealed Handgun License (CHL), you can show it at the guarded entrance and enter the Capital without x-raying your belongings or going through the metal detector.